

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 3. Canceled

4. (Currently amended) The reinforcement device according to claim 11 ~~claim 3~~, wherein:

said wire rope loop assembly includes a bracket assembly having a first end and a second end, said first end adapted for attachment to said upper section of said aperture cover and said second end ~~adapted for attachment of a~~ attached to said wire rope loop member.

5. (Currently amended) The reinforcement device according to claim 4, wherein:

said bracket assembly includes two L-shaped elements, said L-shaped elements each having one leg adjustably attached to the other to allow vertical adjustment of said bracket assembly with respect to the substantially parallel first and second ends, said first end adapted for fixed attachment to said upper section of

said aperture cover and said second end ~~adapted for attachment of~~
attached to said wire loop member.

6. - 8. Canceled

9. (Currently amended) The reinforcement device according to
Claim 11 ~~Claim 7~~, wherein:

said engagement pin is movably attached to said plate and
said engagement pin is spring biased in an extended position.

10. (Currently amended) A The combination of a reinforcement
device ~~for anchoring and securing~~ and a sectional upward opening
aperture cover to a building comprising:

said cover having an upper section and a lower section, said cover
including a means for raising and lowering said cover, said means
permitting lateral movement of said cover;

an upper securing means, said upper securing means including; at
least one upper anchoring assembly, said upper anchoring assembly
including;

(i.) a wire rope loop assembly; said wire rope loop assembly
including;

(a.) a stationary bracket assembly, said bracket assembly
including two L-shaped elements, said L-shaped elements each

having one leg adjustably attached to the other to allow vertical adjustment of said bracket assembly with respect to the substantially parallel first and second ends, said first end attached ~~adapted for attachment~~ to said upper section of said aperture cover and said second end ~~adapted for attachment of a~~ attached to a wire rope loop member;

(b.) a wire rope loop member, said wire rope loop member constructed from a length of wire rope having a first end and a second end, said first and second ends ~~constructed and arranged for attachment~~ attached to said second end of said bracket assembly at spaced apart points, respectively, so that said wire rope forms said wire rope loop, said wire rope loop defining an aperture for receiving said metal hook;

(ii.) a metal hook; said metal hook being constructed and arranged to automatically receive said wire rope loop when said cover is lowered, said metal hook being adapted to be securely attached to said aperture header ;

a lower securing means, said lower securing means including; at least one lower anchoring assembly, said lower anchoring assembly including;

(i.) an anchor plate, said anchor plate adapted to be attached to said floor of said building, said anchor plate having a pin aperture for receiving said engagement pin when said cover

is lowered;

(ii.) an engagement pin; said engagement pin attached to and extending from said lower section of said aperture cover, said engagement pin having at least one bracing groove disposed therein, said at least one bracing groove being adapted to engage an edge of said pin aperture disposed within said anchor plate when said engagement pin ~~shifts~~ moves laterally; whereby said upper securing means and said lower securing means are adapted to passively maintain said aperture cover in a secured orientation with respect to said building.

11. (New) A reinforcement device for anchoring and securing a sectional aperture cover capable of being raised and lowered vertically in a building aperture, said aperture cover having a lower section and an upper section, said device comprising a hook adapted to be connected to said building immediately above said aperture, a bracket adapted to be connected in a stationary position to said upper section, a wire loop extending from said bracket adapted to engage said hook when said cover is lowered and disengage said hook when said cover is raised, a mounting plate adapted to be connected to said lower section, an engagement pin connected to said mounting plate and adapted to extend below said lower section, said engagement pin having a circumferential

groove, an anchor plate adapted to be connected to the floor of said building below said aperture, said anchor plate including a pin aperture, said pin aperture having an edge, said engagement pin adapted to pass through said pin aperture when said aperture cover is lowered, said edge adapted to engage said groove when said cover moves laterally.

12. (New) The reinforcement device according to claim 10, wherein:

a mounting plate connected to said lower section, said engagement pin is movably attached to said plate and a spring attached at one end to said plate and at attached at the other end to said pin whereby said engagement pin is spring biased in an extended position.